Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (currently amended): A method for promoting whole body health in human and other animal subjects, comprising topically administering to said subjects' oral cavity, a composition comprising ~~a safe and effective~~ an amount of an antimicrobial agent effective to promote whole body health and a pharmaceutically acceptable oral carrier, wherein said antimicrobial is selected from the group consisting of stannous ion agent; triclosan; triclosan monophosphate; chlorhexidine; alexidine; hexetidine; sanguinarine; benzalkonium chloride; salicylanilide; domiphen bromide; cetylpyridinium chloride (CPC); tetradecylpyridinium chloride (TPC); N-tetradecyl-4-ethylpyridinium chloride (TDEPC); octenidine; delmopinol; octapinol; nisin; zinc ion agent; copper ion agent; essential oils; furanones; bacteriocins; salts thereof; and mixtures thereof.

Claim 6 (previously amended): The method of Claim 5 wherein said composition is in a form selected from the group consisting of a mouthrinse, toothpaste, tooth gel, tooth powder, non-abrasive gel, chewing gum, mouth spray, lozenge, and a pet chew product.

Claim 7 (previously amended): A method for promoting whole body health in human and other animal subjects according to Claim 5 wherein the composition topically administered to the subjects' oral cavity further comprises an additional therapeutic agent which is a H2-antagonist.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A method for promoting whole body health in human and other animal subjects, comprising topically administering to said subjects' oral cavity a composition comprising:

a. ~~a safe and effective amount of~~ an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of stannous ion agent, triclosan, triclosan monophosphate, chlorhexidine, domiphen bromide; cetylpyridinium chloride (CPC), zinc ion agent, copper ion agent, essential oils, and mixtures thereof;

b. ~~a safe and effective amount of~~ an additional therapeutic agent; and

c. a pharmaceutically-acceptable topical, oral carrier,

wherein the amount of the antimicrobial agent and the therapeutic agent is effective to promote whole body health.

Claim 9 (original): A method according to Claim 8 wherein said therapeutic agent is a H2-antagonist selected from cimetidine, ranitidine, famotidine, roxatidine, nizatidine, mifentidine, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 10 (new): A method for promoting whole body health in human and other animal subjects, comprising topically administering to said subjects' oral cavity, a composition comprising a safe and effective amount of an antimicrobial agent and a pharmaceutically acceptable oral carrier, wherein said antimicrobial is selected from the group consisting of stannous ion agent; triclosan; triclosan monophosphate; chlorhexidine; alexidine; hexetidine; sanguinarine; benzalkonium chloride; salicylanilide; domiphen bromide; cetylpyridinium chloride ICPC); tetradecylpyridinium chloride (TPC); N-tetradecyl-4-ethylpyridinium chloride (TDEPC); octenidine; delmopinol; octapinol; nisin; zinc ion agent; copper ion agent; essential oils; furanones; bacteriocins; salts thereof; and mixtures thereof, with the proviso that the composition may not include an H2-antagonist.

Claim 11 (new): The method of Claim 10 wherein said composition is in a form selected from the group consisting of a mouthrinse, toothpaste, tooth gel, tooth powder, non-abrasive gel, chewing gum, mouth spray, lozenge, and a pet chew product.

Claim 12 (new): A method for promoting whole body health in human and other animal subjects, comprising topically administering to said subjects' oral cavity a composition comprising

a. a safe and effective amount of an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of stannous ion agent, triclosan, triclosan monophosphate, chlorhexidine, comiphen bromide; cetylpyridinium chloride (CPC), zinc ion agent, copper ion agent, essential oils, and mixtures thereof;

b. a safe and effective amount of an additional therapeutic agent with the proviso that the additional therapeutic agent may not include an H-2 antagonist; and

c. a pharmaceutically-acceptable topical, oral carrier.